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ABSTRACT

Results of a survey of state directors of special education indicate an increase in the percentage of state directors holding doctorates, while the amount of their experience has decreased. State directors are predominantly male, average 44 years, and have experienced increases in the number of staff they supervise and in salary. Charts and tables depict trends in experience and training, last previous position, highest degree held, internship experiences, undergraduate and graduate major and minor subjects, and administrative data (including number of clerical staff and state education agency special education unit and the contract status of state directors). Personnel data--age and distribution by sex--are also listed. A directory with names, titles, and addresses concludes the document. (CL)

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A Summary of Descriptive Information

May, 1979

THE STATE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

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INTRODUCTION

Since 1974, NASDSE has periodically collected data on the State Directors of Special Education. The information in this 1979 update of the State Director Profile was collected in the first quarter of 1979. Fifty-five of the 57 state directors responded to the survey (96.5%), a response rate similar to that of previous surveys conducted in 1974, 1976, and 1977.

Since several questionnaire items have remained unchanged over the years, it is possible to compare survey responses over time to detect any changes in characteristics of the state directors. The section of this report entitled Trends compares several characteristics over the 1974-79 period.

The Experience and Training section describes the years of experience, last previous position, educational background, and training internships of state directors. Administrative Data covers the number of staff supervised, contract status, immediate supervisor, title and salary of state directors. A final section gives a breakdown of state directors by age and sex, the only personal data collected in the survey.

Finally, a roster of state directors, including addresses, has been included as an appendix.

We hope the information on the following pages will be interesting to you and to NASDSE as a professional association.

We appreciate the cooperation of each of the state directors of special education who provided information for the survey report.

Judy Harkins
Editor

TRENDS

The percentage of state directors holding doctorates has doubled since the 1973-74 survey; however, state directors in 1979 have less experience in their present positions than the directors of previous surveys. Still predominately males, about 44 years of age, they have experienced increases in the number of staff supervised and in salary.

CHARTS IN THIS ORDER

FIGURE A Trends in Average Age

FIGURE B Trends in Salary

FIGURE C Trends in Number of Staff Supervised

FIGURE D Trends in Percentage of State Directors with Doctoral Degrees

FIGURE E Trends in Number of Years in Present Position

FIGURE F Trends in Percentage of State Directors Who are Male

FIGURE A - TRENDS IN AVERAGE AGE OF STATE DIRECTORS

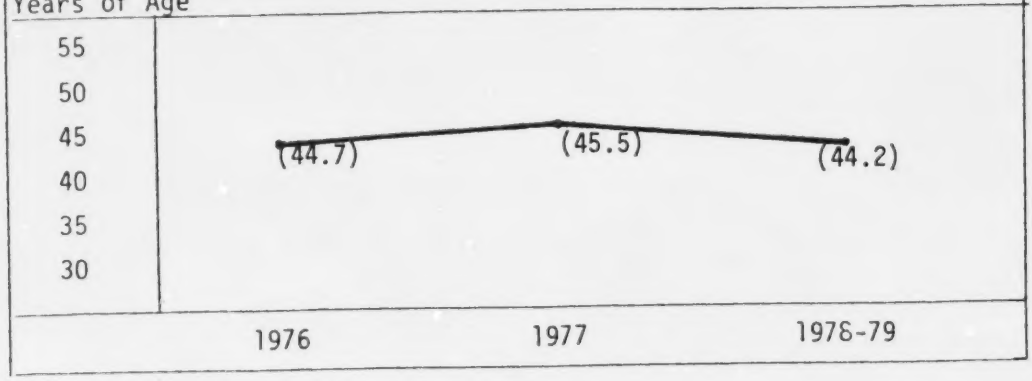


FIGURE B - MEAN SALARY OF STATE DIRECTORS

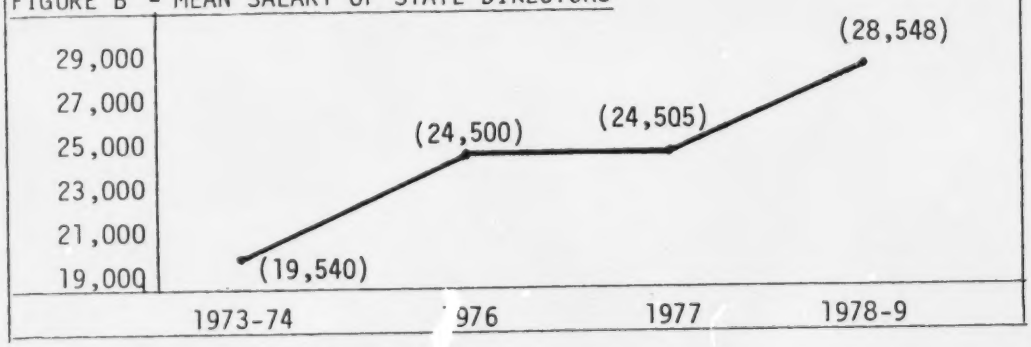


FIGURE C - AVERAGE NUMBER OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF SUPERVISED

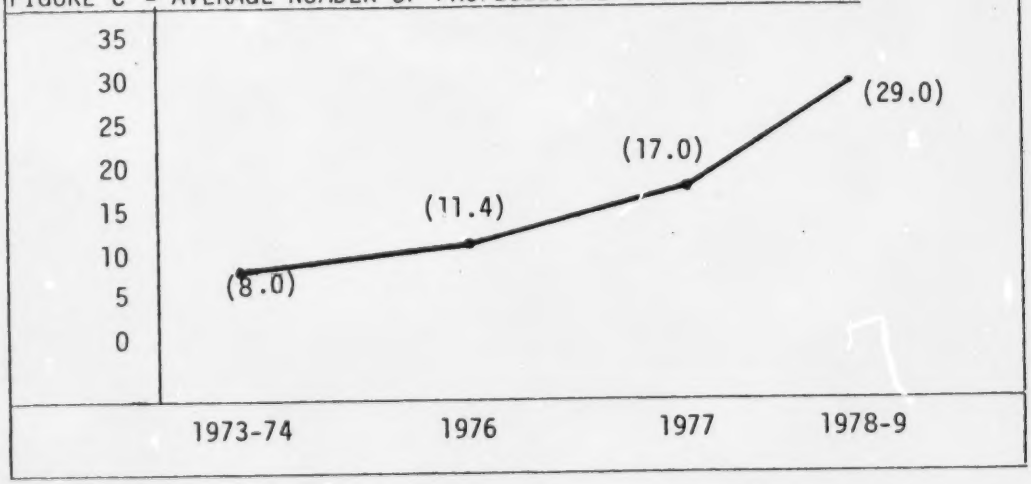


FIGURE D - PERCENTAGE OF STATE DIRECTORS WITH DOCTORATES

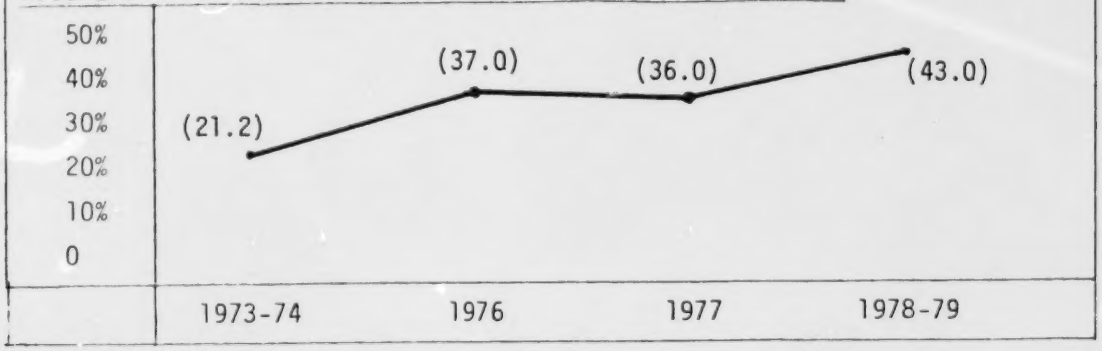


FIGURE E - MEAN NUMBER OF YEARS IN PRESENT POSITION

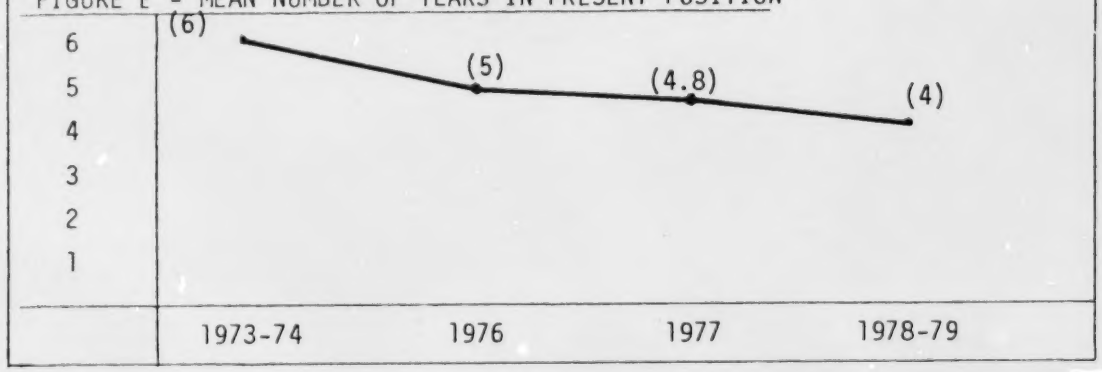
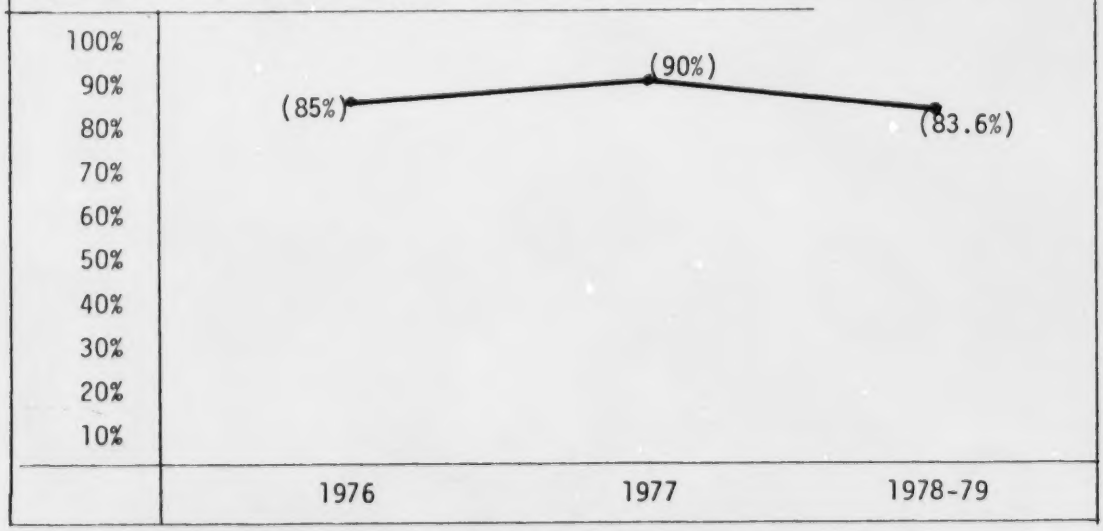


FIGURE F - PERCENTAGE OF STATE DIRECTORS WHO ARE MALE



EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

The 1978-79 data show that the median state director has been in his job four years, and was formerly a state education agency consultant or supervisor. He (46 are male) is nearing completion of a doctorate, majoring in special education, administration, or a combination of the two. He did not experience an internship period, possibly indicating that he attended school while working, rather than as a full time student.

TABLE 1

NUMBER OF YEARS IN PRESENT POSITION

Number of Years	Number of State Directors	Percentage
0 - 1.9	12	21.8
2.0 - 3.9	15	27.3
4.0 - 5.9	11	20.0
6.0 - 7.9	3	5.5
8.0 - 9.9	3	5.5
10 - 19	8	14.5
20 or more	3	5.5
Total	55	100

Mean = 5.6 years
Median = 4 years
Range = 0-21 years

TABLE 2

LAST PREVIOUS POSITION

Position Title	Number	Percentage
SEA Consultant/Supervisor	32	58.2
LEA Specialist/Administrator	8	14.5
University Teaching	4	7.3
LEA Teacher	1	1.8
State Director, Other State	0	0
Other	8	14.5
No Response	2	3.6
Total	55	100

TABLE 3

HIGHEST DEGREE HELD BY STATE DIRECTORS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

Degree	Number	Percentage
Bachelor's	1	1.8
Master's	13	23.6
Master's plus 45 quarter hours or more	17	30.9
Ph.D.	8	14.5
Ed.D	15	27.3
Other doctorate	1	1.8
Total	55	100

INTERNSHIP

Of 54 responses to this question, 33 state directors (60%) did not experience a period of internship. Twenty-one directors did participate in internship experiences, as follows:

TABLE 4

STATE DIRECTORS EXPERIENCING INTERNSHIP (N=21)

Duration of Internship	Number	Percentage
3 months or less	5	23.8
3 to 6 months	10	47.6
6 to 12 months	4	19.0
more than 12 months	2	9.5
Total	21	100

TABLE 5

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE EDUCATION:
MAJOR SUBJECT AREAS REPORTED BY STATE DIRECTORS

	Number Majoring in this Subject for:		
Subject Area	BA	MA	Doctorate
Science/Math	6	1	0
Social Sciences	15	5	1
Education	15	6	2
Special Education/Disability	8	21	16
Guidance Counseling	0	5	2
Administration	2	18	8
Other	9	0	0

TABLE 6

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE EDUCATION:
MINOR SUBJECT AREAS REPORTED BY STATE DIRECTORS

Subject Area	Number Minoring in this Subject for: BA	MA	Doctorate
Science/Math	8	0	0
Social Sciences	15	9	2
Education	9	9	7
Special Education/Disability	1	10	2
Administration		5	12
Guidance/Counseling	1	1	0
Other	6	0	0

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Data from this year's survey indicate considerable variation in the titles SEAs give to state directors, and in their placement in the organizational hierarchy. The "average" state director earns $30,000 per year, supervises 13 professional staff and 14 clerical staff.

TABLE 7

NUMBER OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF
IN SEA SPECIAL EDUCATION UNIT

Professional Staff	Number of SEAs	Percentage of SEAs
0 - 10	21	38.2
11 - 20	12	21.8
21 - 30	9	16.4
31 - 40	1	1.8
41 - 50	4	7.3
More than 50	7	12.7
No response	1	1.8
Total	55	100

Range = 1 - 257
Mean = 29
Median = 13

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF CLERICAL STAFF
IN SEA SPECIAL EDUCATION UNIT

Clerical Staff	Number of SEAs	Percentage
0 - 5	19	34.5
6 - 10	17	30.9
11 - 15	9	16.4
More than 15	9	16.4
No response	1	1.8
Total	55	100

Range = 1 - 69
Mean = 12.6
Median = 14

TABLE 9

PERSON TO WHOM STATE DIRECTORS REPORT

Position	Number	Percentage
Chief State School Officer	10	18.2
Deputy Chief State School Officer	9	16.4
Assistant Chief State School Officer	15	27.3
Director of Instructional Services	5	9.1
Director of Pupil Personnel Services	0	0
Director of Elementary and Secondary Education	1	1.8
Other	15	27.3
Total	55	100

TABLE 10

SALARIES OF STATE DIRECTORS

Salary Range	Number	Percentage
10,000 - 14,999	1	1.8
15,000 - 19,999	3	5.5
20,000 - 24,999	8	14.5
25,000 - 29,999	13	23.6
30,000 - 34,999	14	25.4
35,000 - 39,999	7	12.7
40,000 or more	1	1.8
No response	8	14.5
Total	55	100

Range = $11,000 - 47,000
Median = $30,000
Mean = $28,500

TABLE 11

CONTRACT STATUS OF STATE DIRECTORS

Contract Status	Number	Percentage
At Pleasure of CSSO	21	38.2
At Pleasure of Board	8	14.5
Civil Service	18	32.8
Yearly Contract	3	5.5
Other	4	7.3
No response	1	1.8
Total	55	100

TABLE 12

TITLES OF STATE DIRECTORS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

State Education Agency	Title
Alabama	Coordinator, Program for Exceptional Children and Youth
Alaska	Administrator, Office for Exceptional Children
American Samoa	Director, Special Education
Arizona	Deputy Associate Superintendent, Special Education
Arkansas	Coordinator
California	Asst. Supt. of Public Instruction, Director of Special Education
Colorado	Executive Director, Special Education Services Unit
Connecticut	Chief, Bureau of Pupil Personnel and Special Ed. Services
Delaware	State Director, Excep. Children and Special Programs
District of Columbia	Assistant Superintendent for Special Education
Florida	Chief, Bureau of Education for Exceptional Students
Georgia	Director, Program for Exceptional Children
Guam	Associate Superintendent, Special Education
Hawaii	Director, Special Needs Branch
Idaho	Supervisor of Special Education
Illinois	Assistant Superintendent
Indiana	Director, Division of Special Education
Iowa	Director, Special Education Division
Kansas	Director, Special Education Administration
Kentucky	Assistant Superintendent
Louisiana	Assistant State Superintendent of Education
Maryland	Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Special Education
Massachusetts	Associate Commissioner
Michigan	Director, Special Education Services
Minnesota	Director of Special Education
Mississippi	Assistant Director of Instruction in Charge of Special Education
Missouri	Director of Special Education
Montana	Director of Special Education
Nebraska	Administrator of Special Education
Nevada	Director, Division of Special Education
New Hampshire	Director of Special Education
New Jersey	Deputy Assistant Commr., Branch Sp. Ed. and Pupil Personnel Svcs.
New Mexico	Director of Special Education
New York	Asst. Commr., Office for Ed. of Children with Handcpg. Conditions
North Carolina	Director for Division for Exceptional Children
North Dakota	State Director, Special Education
Ohio	Director, Division of Special Education
Oklahoma	Director, Special Education Section
Pennsylvania	Director, Bureau of Special Education
Rhode Island	Coordinator of Special Education Unit
South Carolina	Director, Office of Programs for the Handicapped
South Dakota	Director of Special Education
Tennessee	Assistant Commissioner
Texas	Director, Division of Special Education Developmental Services
Mariana Islands	Special Education Coordinator
Utah	Coordinator of Special Education
Vermont	Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services
Virginia	Director, Division of Special Education and Support Services
Washington	Director of Special and Institutional Education
West Virginia	Director of Special Education and Student Support System
Wisconsin	Assistant Supt. of Pub. Inst., Administrator, Div. for Hdcpd. Chil.
Wyoming	State Programs for Handicapped Children
*BIA	Chief, Division of Continuing Education

*Kathleen Brady was designated as State Director of Special Education for BIA after the data was compiled.

PERSONAL DATA

TABLE 13

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF STATE DIRECTORS

Age Range	Number	Percentage
30 and below	1	1.8
31 - 40	20	36.4
41 - 50	15	27.3
51 - 60	13	23.6
61 and over	2	3.6
No response	4	7.3
Total	55	100

Range = 30 - 64
Mean = 44.2
Median = 42

TABLE 14

DISTRIBUTION BY SEX

Sex	Number	Percentage
Male	46	83.6
Female	9	16.4
Total	55	100

State	Name	Years in Present Position	No. of Professional Staff	No. of Clerical Staff
Alabama	Cecil Bobo	3	20	14
Alaska	John Stamm	1	4.5	1
American Samoa	Ladona Scott	2	10	2
Arizona	Patricia Diane Petersen	1	19	14
Arkansas	Larry Rodgers	3	10	-
California	Gordon Duck	1	73	45
Colorado	Peter Fanning	1	16	9
Connecticut	Tom Gillung	1	20	10
Delaware	Carl Haltom	3	9	5
D.C.	Doris Woodson	4	42	12
Florida	Landis Stetler	20	22	10
Georgia	Arthur Bilyeu	1	21	10
Guam	Victoria Harper	3	7	6
Hawaii	Miles Kawatachi	3	9	4
Idaho	Judy Schrag	4	8	5.5
Illinois	Joseph Fisher	2	42	15
Indiana	Gilbert Bliton	8	22	10
Iowa	John Vance	5	21	6
Kansas	James Marshall	21	-	5.5
Kentucky	Billie Downing	1	44	18
Louisiana	Henry Smith	3	57	15
Maine	John Kierstead	5	10	4
Maryland	Linda Jacobs	2	38	23
Massachusetts	Roger Brown	2	357	60
Michigan	Murray Batten	6	26	15
Minnesota	John Groos	13	21	10
Mississippi	Walter Moore	4	23	12
Missouri	Roland Werner	4	9	5
Montana	Shirley Miller	2	7	4
Nebraska	Gary Sherman	4	22	5
Nevada	Frank South	1	6	3
New Hampshire	Robert Kennedy	4	8	4
New Jersey	Paul Winkler	1	45	14
New Mexico	Elie Gutierrez	7	5	2
New York	Louis Grumet	1	92	69
North Carolina	Theodore Drain	8	70	39
North Dakota	Roger Miller	3	5	5
Ohio	Samuel Bonham, Jr.	14	28	15
Oklahoma	Maurice Walraven	11	17	7
Oregon	Mason McQuiston	15	10	2
Pennsylvania	Gary Makuch	3	36	21
Rhode Island	Charles Harrington	4	7	4
South Carolina	Robert Black	6	17	10
South Dakota	George Levin	4	11	6
Tennessee	Vernon Johnson	20	20	10
Texas	Don Weston	3	58	43
Mariana Islands	Elsa Thomas	5	1	1
Utah	Raymong Pace	19	7	4
Vermont	Jean Garvin	10	13	7
Virginia	James Micklem	12	19	10
Washington	William Hultem	1	10	5
West Virginia	Keith Smith	3	12	9
Wisconsin	Victor Contrucci	1	72	31
Wyoming	Lamar Gordon	9	7	3
BIA	Robert Hall	12	5	2

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